

Pound Out That First Draft!

[Scott Myers](#)

Go from FADE IN to FADE OUT in my upcoming online writing workshop. Starts August 23!



As far as I'm concerned, there's only one rule about a first draft and it's this: "Get the damn thing done!"

Easy to say. Hard to do.


That's why I created the [Pages I: Writing the First Draft](#) workshop, a structured online environment — 10 weeks, 10 lectures, 10 writing assignments — to empower a writer to get from FADE IN to FADE OUT.

The Writing the First Draft workshop consists of:

- Weekly due dates to compel you to knock out script pages

- Lectures to help steer you through the writing process
- Feedback and support from a community of fellow writers
- Weekly analysis of pages from a pro screenwriter and educator (me!)
- Teleconferences to drill down in your story and the craft of screenwriting

I have found the approach we use in the workshop, breaking down each weekly assignment to 10 pages or so makes the writing much more manageable. That in combination with several other factors make the success rate in my writing workshops — writers actually completing their scripts — quite high.



First drafts
don't have to be
perfect.
They just have to
be written.

Some testimonials from writers who have participated in the workshop:

"Having read almost every screenwriting book out there, none can hold a penny to Scott's approach of story driven by character, which can not only have you confident in your writing abilities, but can also solve the worst case of writers block (as it did for me)." — Aarthi Jayaraman

"A great experience. I didn't just get a 99 page first draft out of it, I got all the notes, comments and ideas

to start my second draft.” — Michael Waters

“I would highly recommend the Pages I course. I was hesitant to spend the money, but Scott Myers is a fantastic instructor: knowledgeable, encouraging, genuine, funny, and generous. The class set up and size is optimal. And although, personally, I was unsure how much I would get from the peer feedback — I found that incredibly rewarding as well.” — Stacey Fernengel

Consider enrolling in the **upcoming Pages I workshop**.
Instructor: Yours truly. It begins **Monday, August 23**.

Go [here](#) to learn more.

Let me end with some writer quotes about first drafts:

*“First drafts are for learning what your story is about.”
— Bernard Malamud*

*“The first draft is nothing more than a starting point, so be wrong as fast as you can.”
— Andrew Stanton*

*“Then comes the great leap which is the first draft, I call it ‘the muscle draft,’ where you just muscle it out. You don’t worry about what you’re missing, you just get through it, get to the end.”
— Darren Aronofsky*

“Rewrite, rewrite, rewrite. That first draft is just

spaghetti on the wall."

— *Dennis Lehane*

*"The first draft, the first structure is really important...
Do it fast, don't get stuck."*

— *Oliver Stone*

*"No matter what you write, good or bad, it's an
improvement to a blank page."*

— *Chris Sparling*

*"Sometimes you're swinging your way through a first
draft like a blind miner with a pick-axe. That's OK. Get
it done, nothing else matters."*

—*Justin Marks*



Writing a first draft is like tunneling your way through the darkness to the light.

If you can **write 1 1/2 pages per day**, you can end up with draft of your original feature length screenplay and make this summer a productive one!

What if you've started a draft, but never completed it? Or have a draft, but feel like you should start from scratch? This workshop is constructed to help those writers as well.

This is the **only time** I will be offering the [Pages I: Writing the First Draft](#) workshop in 2010, so I encourage you to enroll now.

*This summer, I have space for a few **private script workshops**, one-on-one writing courses with me as your mentor. If you are interested, email me.*

I look forward to the opportunity to work with and support you in knocking out that first draft!